BARBER.

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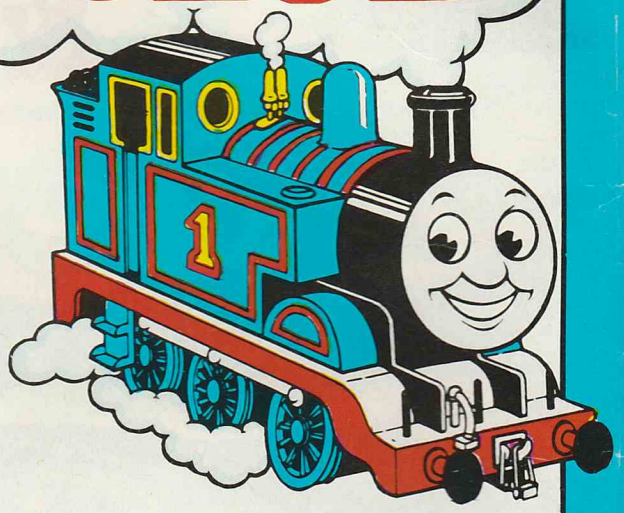
No.25 38p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

Flash! Flash!
Thunder and Lightning!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE!



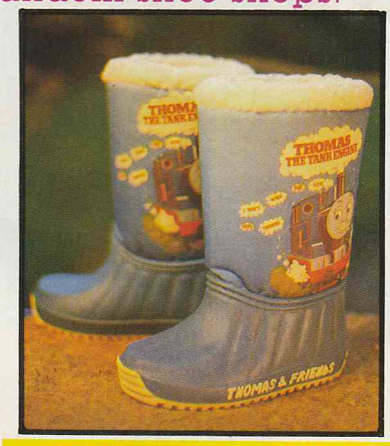
Flash! Lightning and thunder! Poor Edward is out in a storm with his passengers – but don't worry! Even though he is old, he will be all right. He even teaches the other engines a lesson in our story beginning on page 17. Peep! Peep! Flash!

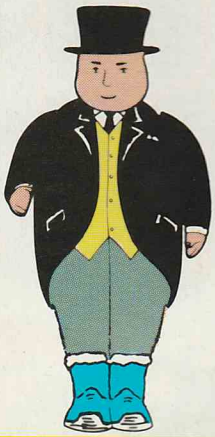
SPECIAL PACK!

Would you like every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** sent straight to your home? Would you like to be a member of the **Thomas Club** and receive a special **Club Pack**? Then why not take out a subscription? Turn to page **18** for details!

KEEP DRY WITH THOMAS!

These splendid Thomas rain boots will keep your feet warm and dry! They're new, and you can find them in selected branches of Olivers, Timpsons and Tandem shoe shops!





JOIN OUR CLUB!

Here's a way to join the **Thomas Club** and receive a membership card only. As a member you will have your own membership number and you will be able to enter our special competitions and offers! Just collect **3 tokens** like the one below. Send one **yellow**, one **red** and one **green** one, together with a stamped, addressed envelope (at least 15 x 10cm) to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

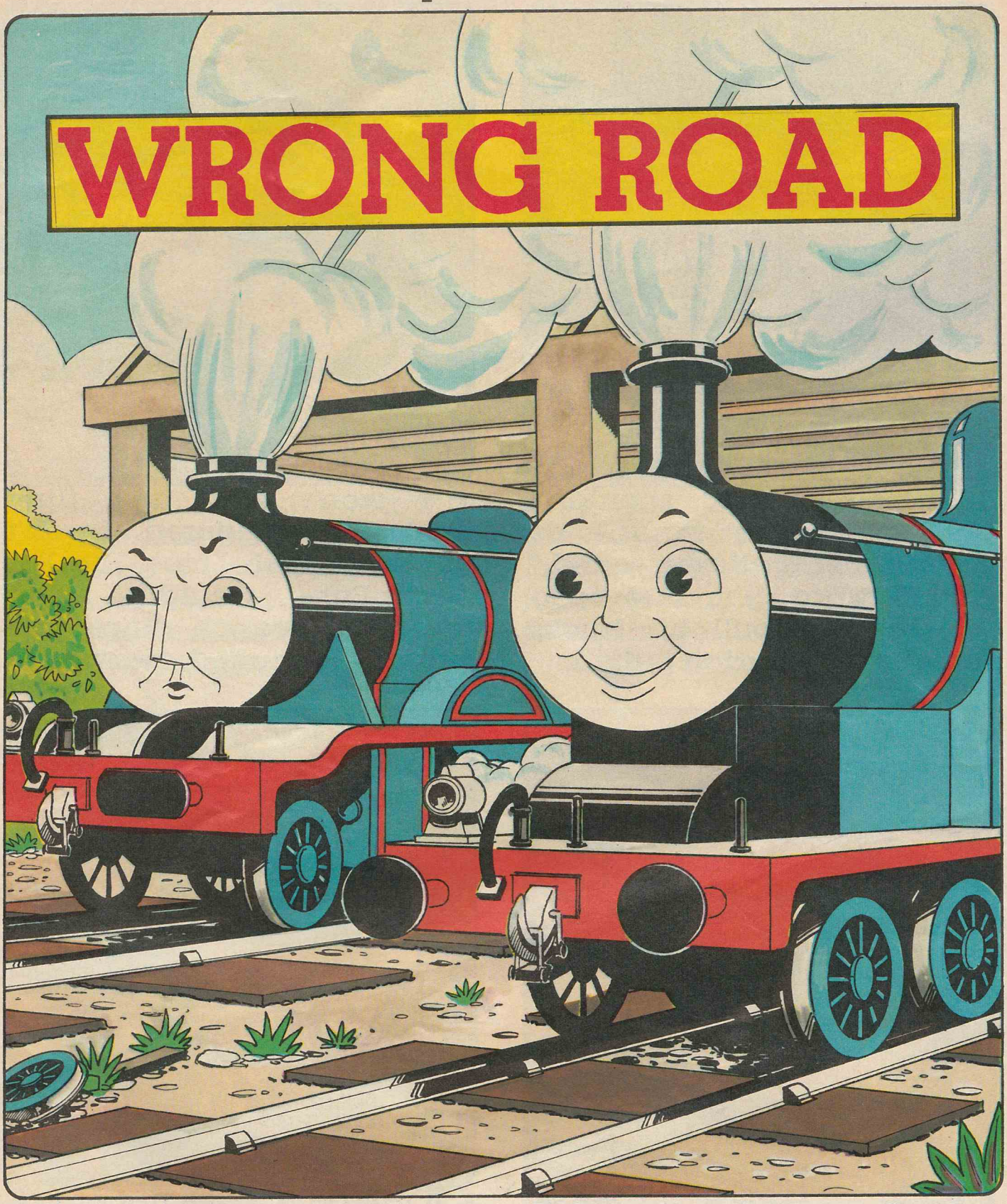
Please allow 28 days for delivery.

BRAND NEW STORIES!

In our next issue you will find stories about Thomas and his friends that are brand **new**! Place a regular order with your newsagent today!

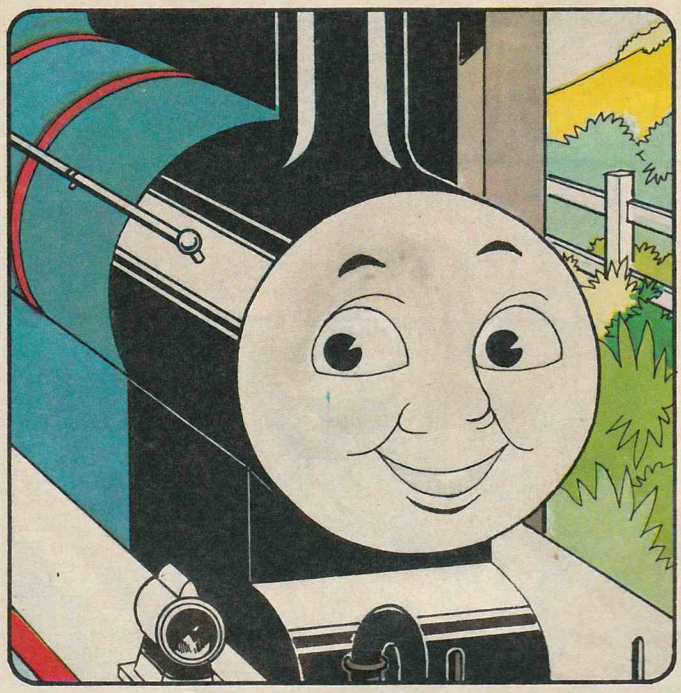
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS is published fortnightly by MARVEL COMICS LTD. a New World Entertainment Company. 13/15 Arundel Street. London WC2R 3ED. ALL THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS material copyright © William Heinemann Limited 1988 copyright © Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited 1988. All rights reserved. No similarity between any names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in England. Distributed by Comag.

A listen and look story!

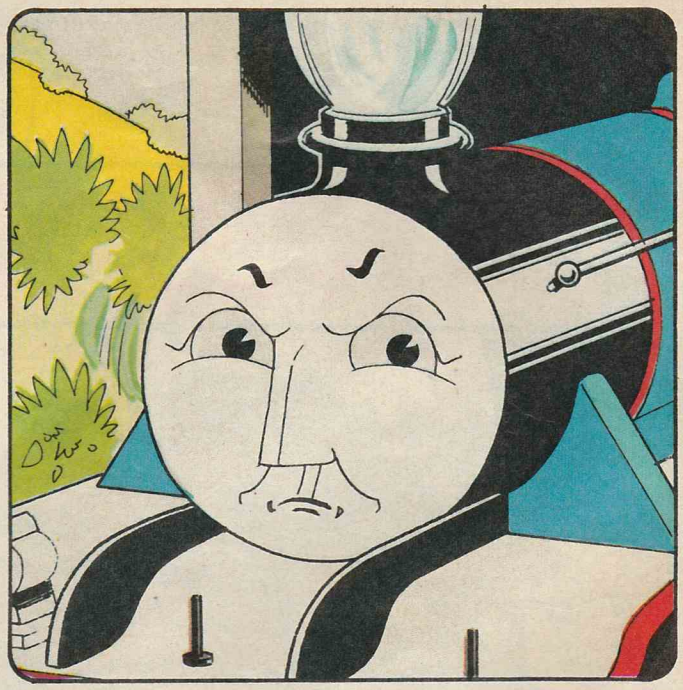


1. Thomas's branch line is important. So is Edward's. But their track and bridges are not so strong. The Fat Controller does not allow the heavier engines on them.

2. One day, the way Gordon was talking, you would have thought the Fat Controller had given this order for quite another reason. "It's not fair," grumbled Gordon.



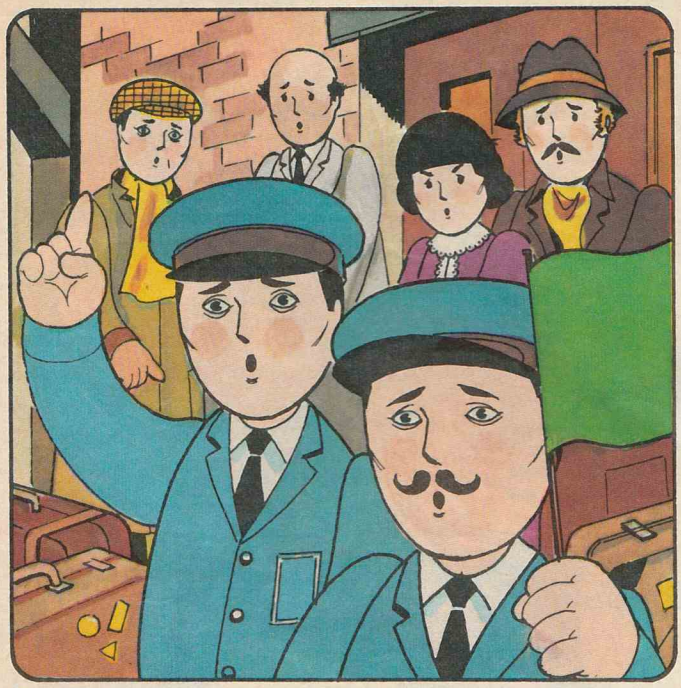
3. "Diesel engines shouldn't pull main line trains," he complained. "Never mind," said Edward. "I'm sure Boco will let you pull his trucks sometimes." Gordon huffed.



4. "I won't pull any dirty trucks," he spluttered. "I won't run on Branch Lines. The Fat Controller would never approve. Branch lines are vulgar." He puffed away.

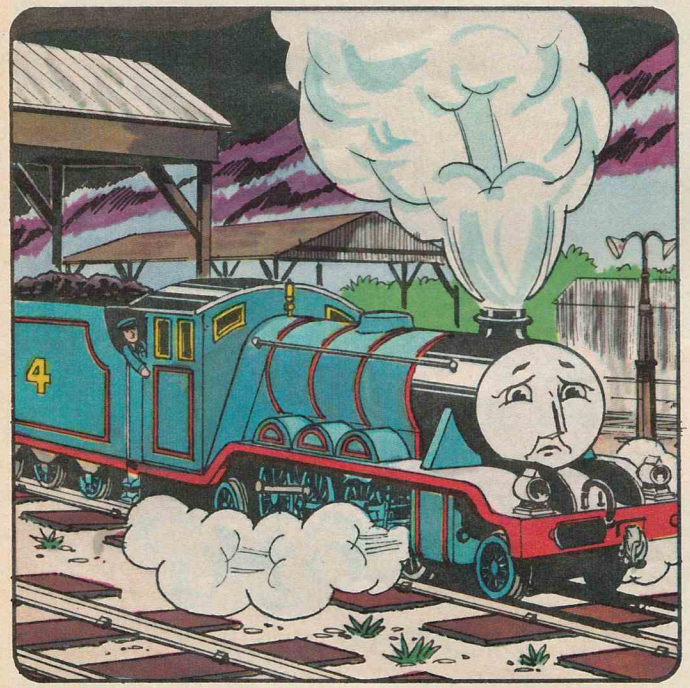
5. Every evening, Gordon takes the main line express and Edward takes his branch line train from the same station, five minutes later. Tonight there was trouble.

6. A lady in a green floppy hat was saying goodbye to a friend. Gordon's Fireman saw something green waving and thought the Guard was waving his flag.



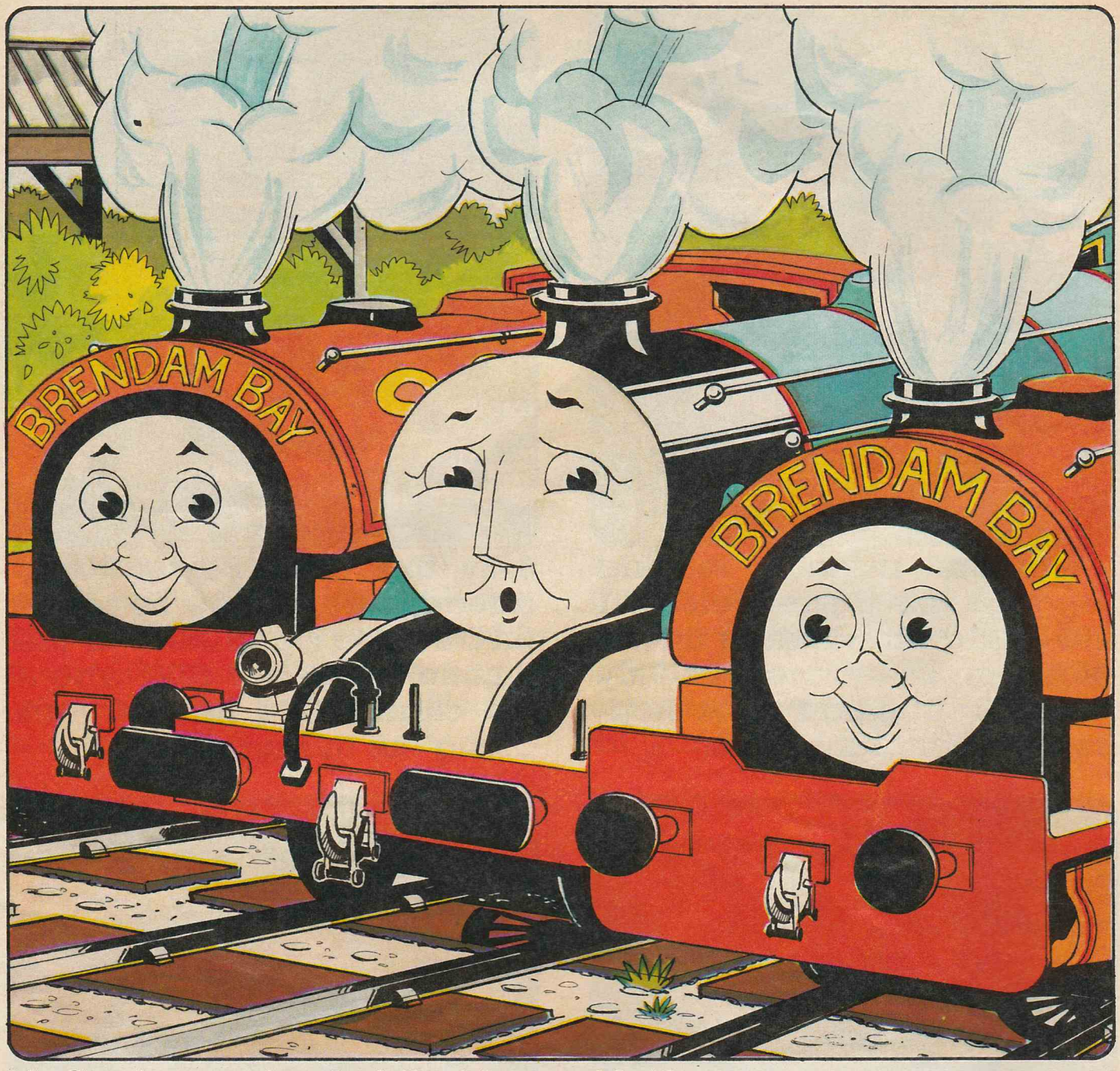
7. Gordon started, leaving luggage, his passengers and the Guard all standing on the platform. Every one was very cross. Gordon had to be stopped and brought back.

8. By this time, Edward was already late, so now he set off first. But the signalman at the junction was not told about the change. He sent Edward along the main line.



9. Gordon was sent along the branch line and arrived cold and cross on a siding near the harbour. Next morning Bill and Ben peeped into the yard and saw Gordon there.

10. "What's that?" asked Bill. "It's Gordon," said Ben. "It looks like Gordon," said Bill, "but it can't be. He never comes on the branch lines. They're too vulgar."



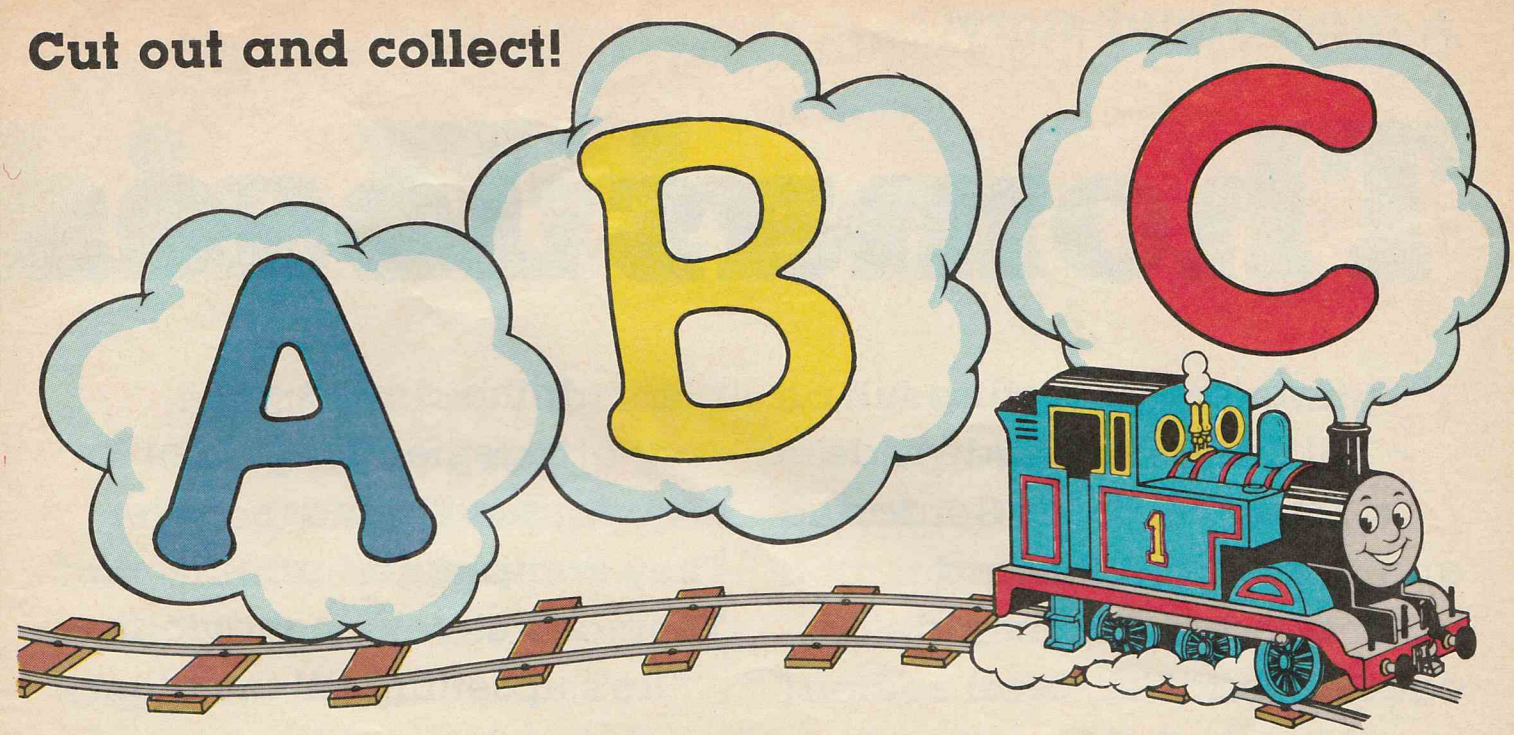
11. Gordon pretended that he hadn't heard them. "If it isn't Gordon," said Ben, "it must be a pile of old iron for the scrapyard." "No, Ben," said Bill. "This lot's useless for scrap. Let's take it to the harbour and dump it in the sea." Gordon was alarmed. "I am Gordon," he cried. "Stop! Stop!" Then Boco suddenly arrived.

12. "Boco, my dear engine! Save me!" called Gordon. Boco quickly sized up the situation and threatened to take away the trucks he had brought for Bill and Ben. This made the twins behave at once. Gordon thought Boco was wonderful, and he still believes that Boco saved his life, but we know the twins were only teasing, don't we?

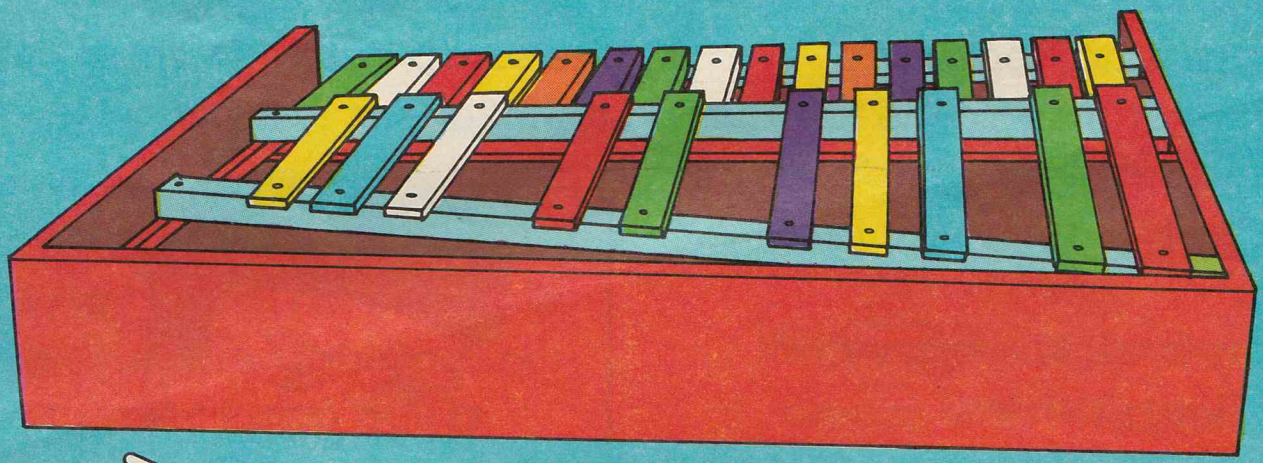
THE END

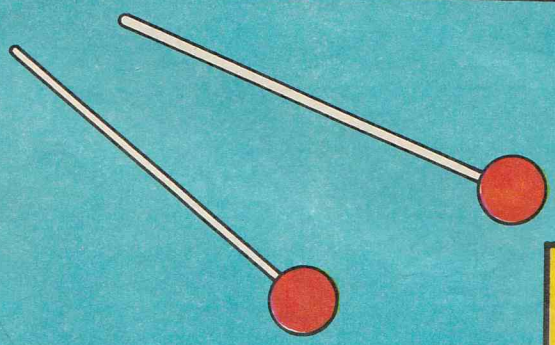
In our next issue: Percy gets jammed!

Cut out and collect!



Xx





xylophone

A read-aloud story!

Thomas loses

Thomas was feeling full of cheek. He made rude remarks about Gordon, and Henry, and Edward.

"Slowcoach. You couldn't catch a tortoise," he chuckled to Gordon.

This angered Gordon. He grumbled and hissed to his driver, all day. Thomas went on being cheeky.

"Look out, Henry. It might rain, and you'll go all rusty." Thomas said, teasingly.

Henry didn't like the idea of turning rusty. He almost refused to come out of his shed.

"This is all Thomas's fault," said Henry's driver

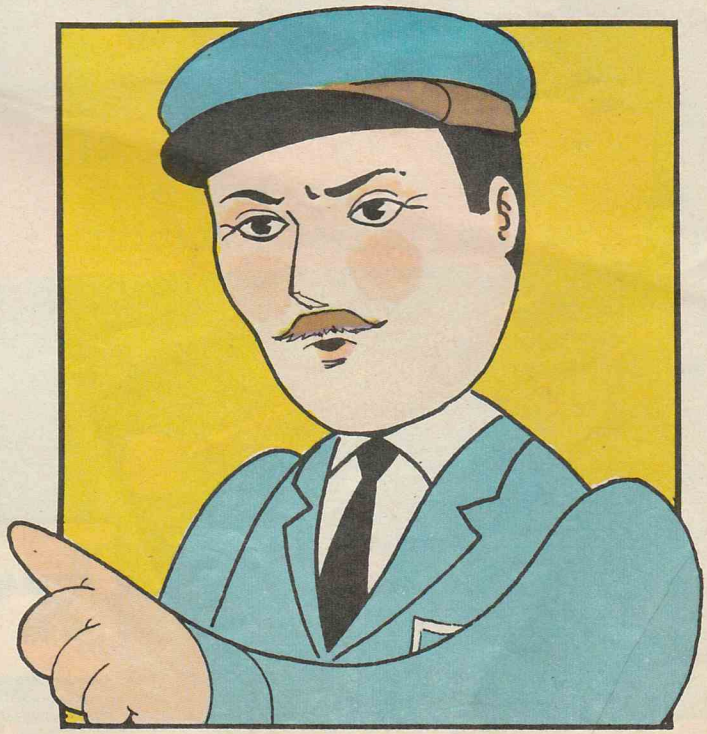
When Thomas saw Edward he said "What an old-fashioned engine you are."

Edward huffed away, crossly. He was so upset he almost over-rode the next platform and the passengers all had to hurry to the end.

All the drivers got together. They went to see Thomas's driver They complained about Thomas's cheeky behaviour.

"He's upsetting all the other engines." they said.

Thomas's driver scolded Thomas. "If you are so cheeky again, I shall leave you in the shed, Thomas," he said. "There will be no one to drive you, and you may be sent to the scrap yard." Thomas did not like that idea at all.



driver

his Driver

That afternoon, Thomas was puffing back to the shed along his branch line. Suddenly, his driver pulled on his brakes. Thomas stopped.

"Wait here, Thomas," said his driver. He jumped down from the footplate, and disappeared into the long grass.

"How very odd," thought Thomas. "Where is my driver going?"

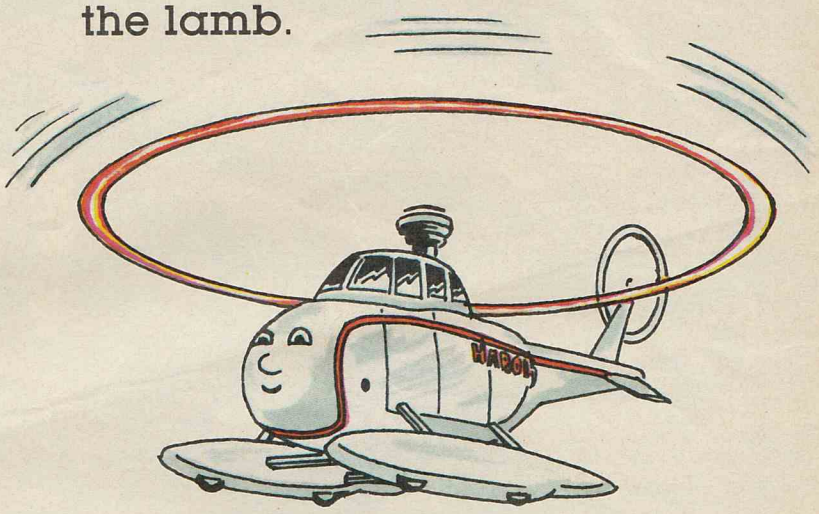
Thomas waited. . . and waited. . . and waited. His driver didn't come back.

"Help," cried Thomas. "My driver said he would leave me if I didn't stop being cheeky, and he has. Now I'll be sent to the scrap yard."

The guard went to see if he could find Thomas's driver He came running back.

"Quickly, Thomas, we must make haste to the next station," he said. "Your driver had seen a lamb fall over a cliff. He went to rescue him – but he fell too. Now they are both trapped on a ledge."

"Peep, peep," whistled Thomas frantically, hurrying back to the station, driven by his fireman. Harold the Helicopter was sent out to rescue Thomas's driver, and the lamb.



Thomas was very glad to see his driver back safely again. "I am sorry I was so cheeky to the other engines, and I am glad you are safe. I will try not to be so cheeky in future."

"That's right, Thomas," said his driver

THE END

Hello there

What colour is Gordon?

What colour is Henry?

Point to Gordon's driver!

How many cows can you see?

Is someone flying a kit

What season of the yea

How do you know?

Do you like the butterfl

e!

a kite?

e year is it?

?

utterfly?

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

Next: Round the park!

Write to:

THE FAT CONTROLLER

Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below! I would be so pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,

I have got mumps and my mummy says my face looks round just like Thomas's. Do your engines ever get poorly too?

Love from **Alison**, 3.

Yes, my engines are sent off to the works when they're not feeling quite right. Henry tends to feel ill rather often. I do hope you are better now, Alison.

Alison wins a set of vinyl **Thomas the Tank Engine stickers** from *Scorpio Products International Ltd.*

HENRY'S COAL!

Dear Fat Controller,

What would happen to Henry if you ran out of Welsh coal?

Love from **Andrew**, 6.

Henry would be a very unhappy engine indeed if we ran out of his special coal. That's why I always make sure we have plenty in stock.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our best birthday wishes go to:

Matthew Selby, Amy Crane, Philip Brader, Mark and Simon Lazenby, Paul Thick, Sarah Jane Smith, Matthew Balding, Neil Wilkinson, Paul Jones, Matthew Johnson, John Devine, Robert and Andrew Crisp, Aiden Grant, Michael Precious, Emily Mullen, Isobel Havercroft, Christopher Taylor, Derrick McCabe, Anthony Carey, Luke Yates, Dean Zaman, Nicholas Scott, Stephen Claridge, Richard Matthew, Joseph and Naomi Davis, Becky Bovill, Julian Hazeldine, Iain Freeman, Neil Williams, Edward and Caroline Sleigh, Andrew Sanger, Andrew Strachen, Gareth, Rhodri and Rhys Davies, Paul Broster, Matthew Goddard, Mark Swindlehurst, Christopher Barnard, Martin Murray, Shaun Watson, Barry Skinner, Sarah-Louise Stewart, Alex Pattison, Matthew Stirling, Matthew West, Richard Baish, Jonathan Salway, Scott Phillips, Pal Hughes, Craig Hickman, Andrew Warner, David Hughes, Hayley Dix, Nicholas Green, Elaine McPhee, Allistair Grubb, David Mayhew, Michael Fairbrother, Jason Vaughn-Williams, Vikki Carter, Adrian Batten, Jon Barron, Craig Shearer, Keith Green, Keith Hurd, Nicholas Shakeshaft, Michael Davis, Robert Godden, Michael Davis, Robert Godden, Michael Wheatley, Bobby Powell, Hannah Tomlin, Steven Keates, Alexander McGuckin, Scott Jackson, Robert Collier, Ralph Mold, Adam and Ben Tilsley, Christopher Cooper, Andrew South, David Short, Jonathan Hughes, Robert and Philip Stebbing, James Houghton, Adam Keith Green, Keith Hurd, Nicholas Shakeshaft, Michael Davis, Robert Godden, Michael Davis, Robert Godden, Michael Wheatley, Bobby Powell, Hannah Tomlin, Steven Keates, Alexander McGuckin, Scott Jackson, Robert Collier, Ralph Mold, Adam and Ben Tilsley, Christopher Cooper, Andrew South, David Short, Jonathan Hughes, Robert and Philip Stebbing, James Houghton, Adam Boucher, Gregory Jones, Christopher Baldwin, Ben Higley, Daniel Reynolds, Stephen Owens, Lee Funnell, Craig Alexander, David Thomas, Andrew Simkins, Rhianon Holley and Martin Thompson.

Many happy returns to you all!

A special hello to Ben, Jason and Carlee!

If you'd like a birthday mention, send details on a postcard please, at least **8 weeks in advance**! We cannot promise to print every birthday we receive, but we will do our best!

Yours,

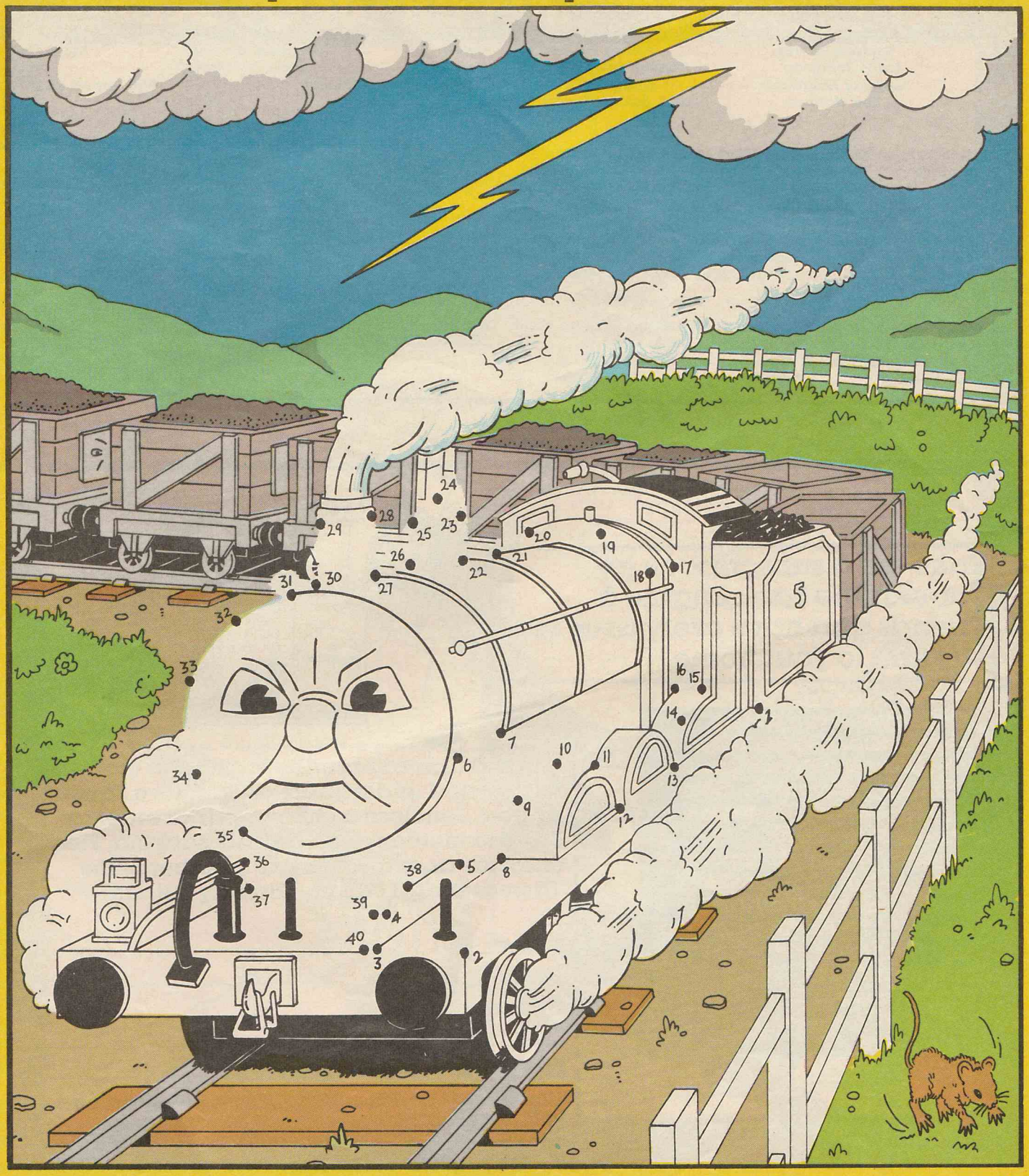
Sir Topham Hatt.

The Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: **The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2**

JOIN THE DOTS!

James has been caught in a storm! Complete the picture by joining up the dots and colouring it in – then you can draw in your own *rain* too!



Competition Winners!

Do you remember Thomas's splendid Prize Competition which appeared in issue 20 of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**? Here are the names of the lucky winners!

First Prize: Remote-controlled Thomas engines go to Andrew Connard, 3, from *Southport*; **Justin Shough**, 4, *Swaffham*; **Andrew Lawley**, 2, *Bromsgrove*; **Ashley Parmenter**, 3, *March*; **Louis Johnston**, 3, *Carlisle*; **Tommy Esom**, 4, *Kings Langley*; **Gregory Keartland**, 2, *Barnham*; **Craig McTaggart**, 4, *Wordsley*; **Lee Welford**, 5, *Saltburn* **and** *Ashley Nuttall*, 2, *London*.

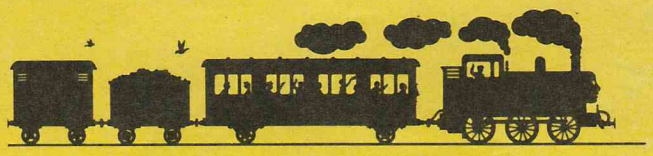
Second Prize: Thomas, Percy and James sets go to Carl Wallace, 3, *Newport*; **Philip Owen**, 4, *Hitchin*; **Michael Zollo**, 5, *Wombourne*; **Matthew Dale**, 4, *Swindon*; **Sean Harrington**, 5, *Lisdoonvarna*; **Paul Kelly**, 2, *Wolverhampton*; **Adrian Shaw**, 3, *Wigan*; **Beverley Whitefield**, 3, *Lower Stratton*; **Kevin Witney**, 4, *Rickmansworth*; **Patrick Fry**, 3, *Ivybridge*; **Nicholas Doherty**, 4, *Braintree*; **Jonathan Cooke**, 5, *Newcastle*; **Andrew Cheeseman**, 5, *Machen*; **Sean Searle**, 4, *Poole* and **David Arrowsmith**, 4, *South Shields*.

Third Prize: Motorised Thomas and Percy engines go to Christopher Bartlett, 4, *Southampton*; **John Holland**, 3, *Nottingham*; **Francis McCartney**, 2, *Chesham*; **Dominic Crook**, 2, *Littlethorpe*; **Mark Burton**, 5, *Wollaton*, **Gerard O'Hare**, 2, *Bishopston*; **Kevin Clements**, 5, *Berwick-on-Tweed*; **Stephen Maguire**, 3, *Ballyshannon*; **Koonal Shah**, 4, *London*; **Julia Tromans**, 6, *Dudley*; **Matthew Stritzel**, 5, *Derby*; **Derek Aulsberry**, 6, *Kilmeaden*; **Adam McArdle**, 4, *Sowerby Bridge*; **Christopher Rathbone**, 4, *Walsall*; **Gordon Crichton**, 4, *Meikleour*; **Stephen Whiteford**, 3, *Glasgow*; **Philip Hope**, 3, *Stalybridge*; **Scott Moret**, 3, *Emsworth*; **Andrew Hodgson**, 4, *Penrith*; **and Robert Cobbina**, 3, *Thamesmead*.

Runners-up: Die-cast miniature models go to Andrew Vowles, 3, *Truro*; **Bleddyn Rees**, 3, *Clunderwen*; **Toni Wagstaff**, 5, *Barnbury*; **Aaron Upton**, 5, *Hucknall*; **James Gardiner**, 7, *Brookworth*; **Michael Clark**, 4, *Pontypridd*; **Neil Parkinson**, 3, *East Ardsley*; **David Emery**, 4, *Dunfermline*; **David Donaldson**, 7, *Galashiels*; **Dale Smith**, 5, *Largs*; **Kris Hipwell**, 2, *Wigston*; **Jemma King**, 2, *Penzance*; **Matthew Roberts**, 5, *Chandlers Ford*; **Stuart Keiller**, 5, *Tiptree*; **David Byrne**, 4, *Newmarket*; **Warwick Goodall**, 7, *London*; **Jack Boreham**, 4, *Blisworth*; **Adam Wheatcroft**, 3, *Clayton-Le-Moors*; **Sean Williamson**, 6, *Stoke-on-Trent* **and Jonathan Dean**, 2, *Ashford*.

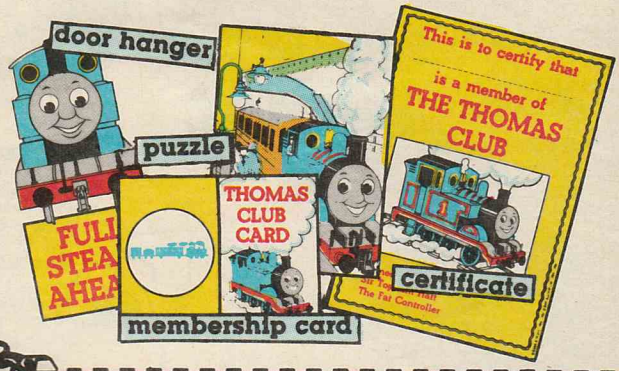
All our fabulous prizes come from Ertl Toys!

Well done! And if you were not a winner, better luck **next time**!



News of a great offer!

Take out a subscription to Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends and have every issue sent straight to your home!



What's more, if you do not already belong to the **Thomas Club,** you will automatically become an immediate member and your exciting **Club Pack** will be sent to you too!
It costs **£9.75** including postage and packing, to be sent **26 issues** of **Thomas the Tank Engine.** Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.75 to: *Thomas subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

Please allow 28 days for delivery of your first magazine and Club Pack.

I should like to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine** and understand I will receive 26 issues by post. I enclose a cheque/postal order for **£9.75** to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member of the **Thomas Club** If I do not already belong!

Name.....

Age.....**Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

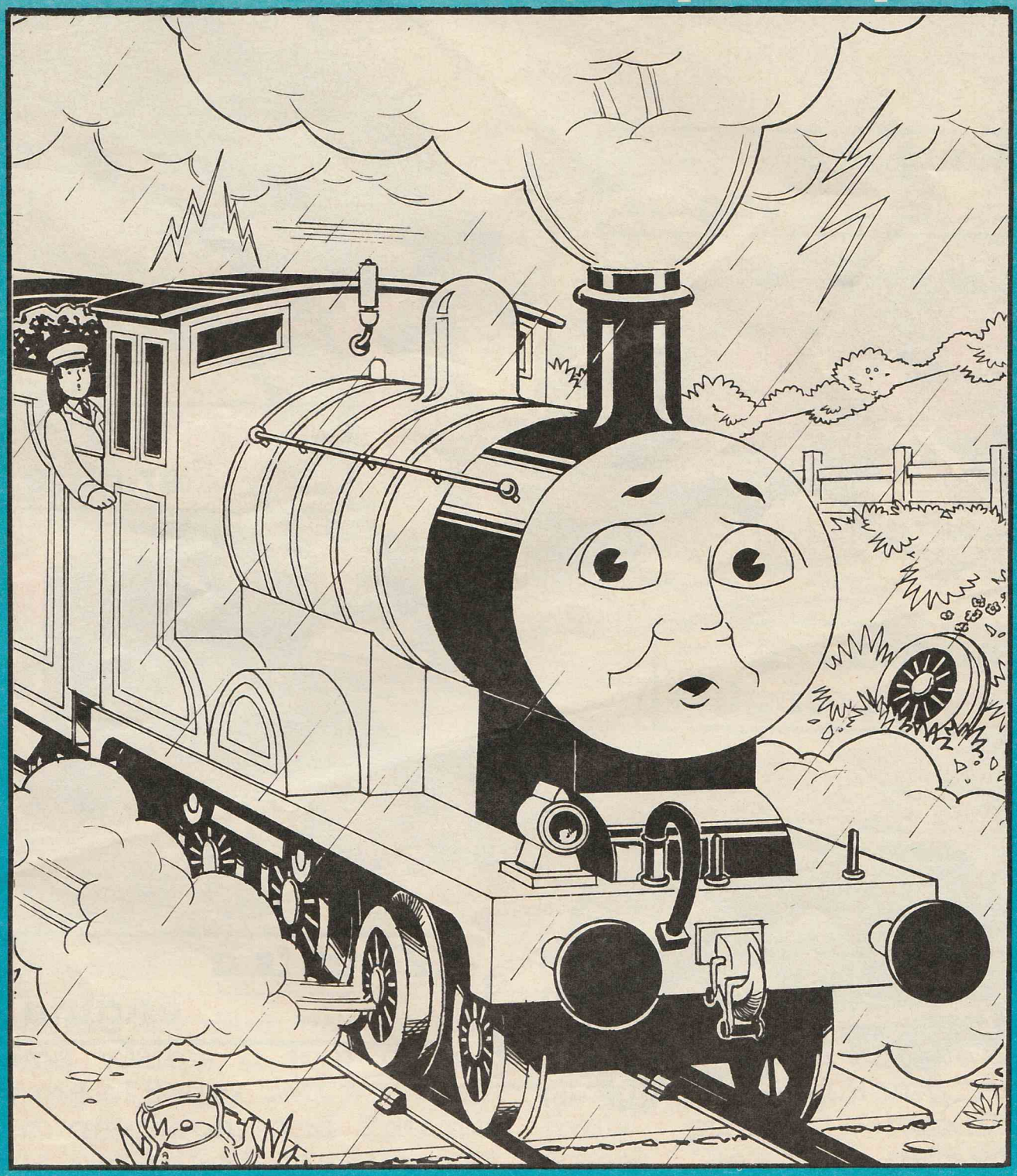
Signature of parent/guardian.....

Thomas Subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

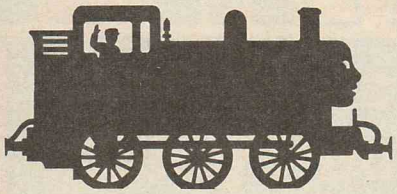
Make your cheque or postal order payable to *Marvel Comics Ltd.*

COLOURING TIME!

Poor Edward's caught in the storm too!
Please colour him in, why don't you?



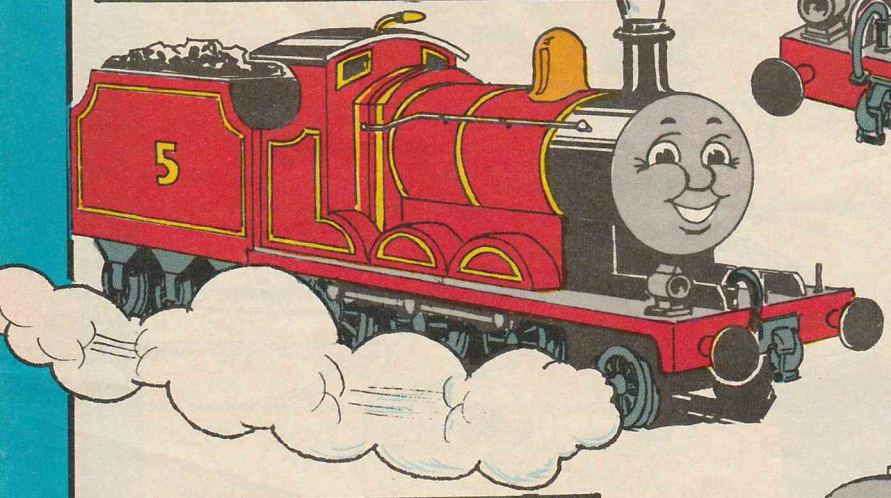
PUZZLE TIME!



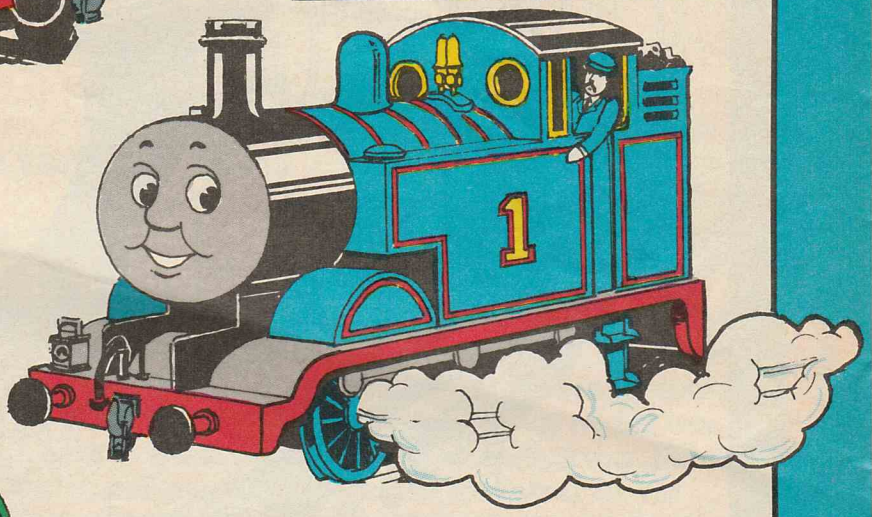
Fun with colours!

green red blue

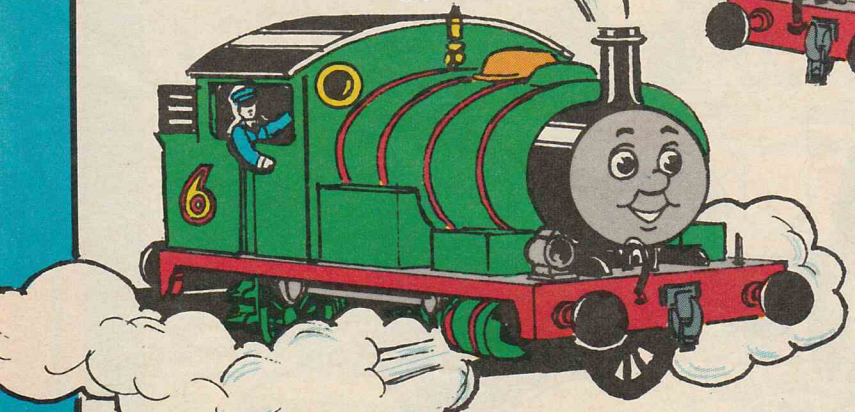
Henry is a _ _ _ _ _ _ engine.



James is a _ _ _ _ engine.



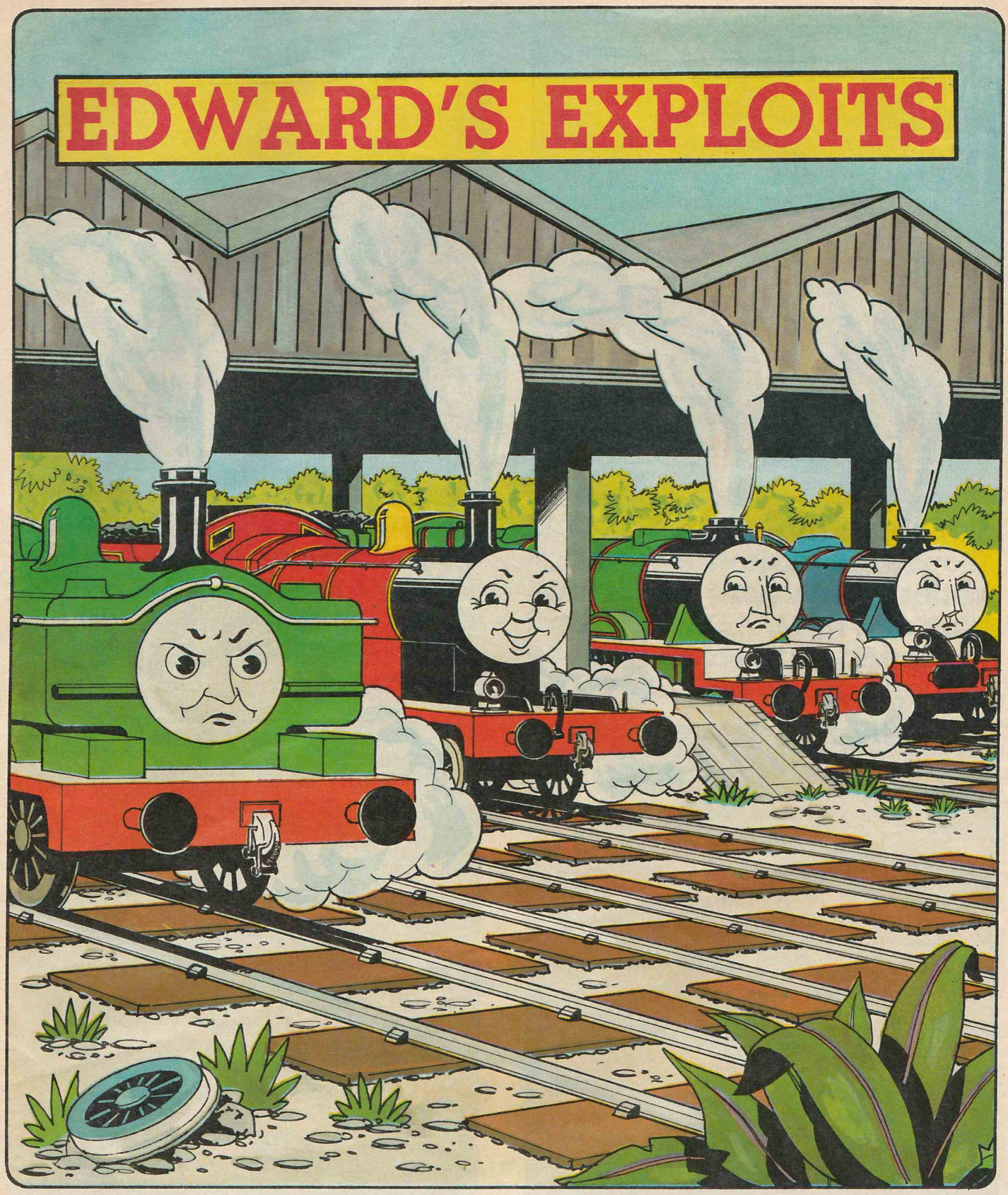
Thomas is a _ _ _ _ _ engine



Percy is a _ _ _ _ _ _ engine.

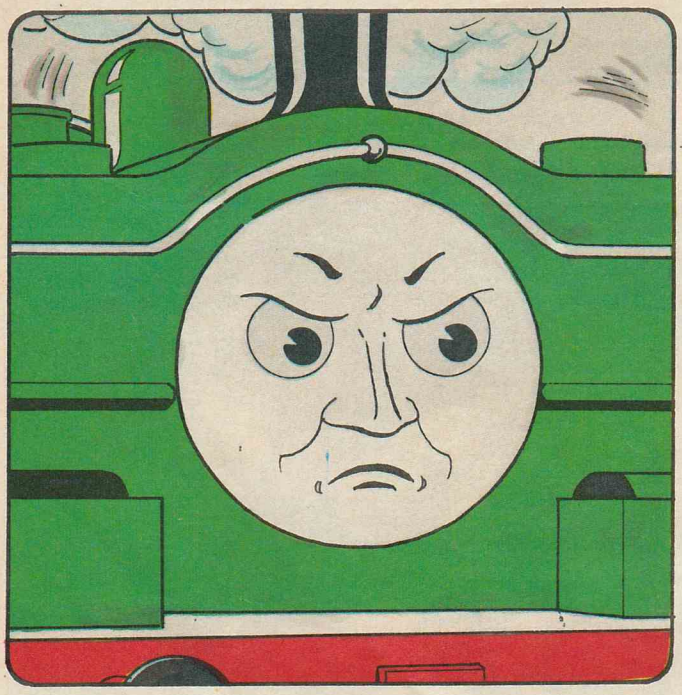
Which colour is your favourite?

A listen and look story!

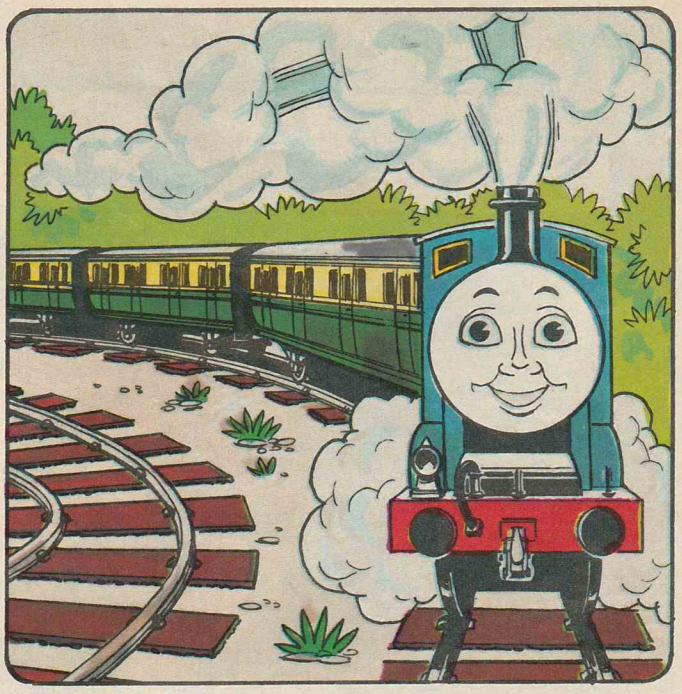


1. Bertie the Bus was giving some visitors a tour of the Island of Sodor. This was their last afternoon, and Edward was preparing to take them to meet Bill and Ben.

2. He found it hard to start the heavy train. "Did you see him straining?" asked Henry. "Positively painful," remarked James. "He's just pathetic," grunted Gordon.

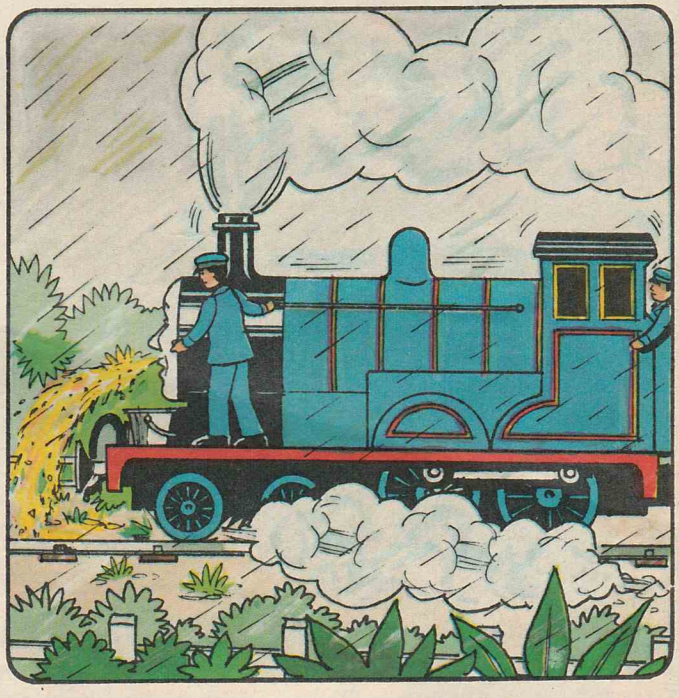


3. "Shut up!" blurted Duck. "You're all jealous. Edward is better than **any** of you." "You're right, Duck," said Boco. "Edward's old, but he will surprise us all."

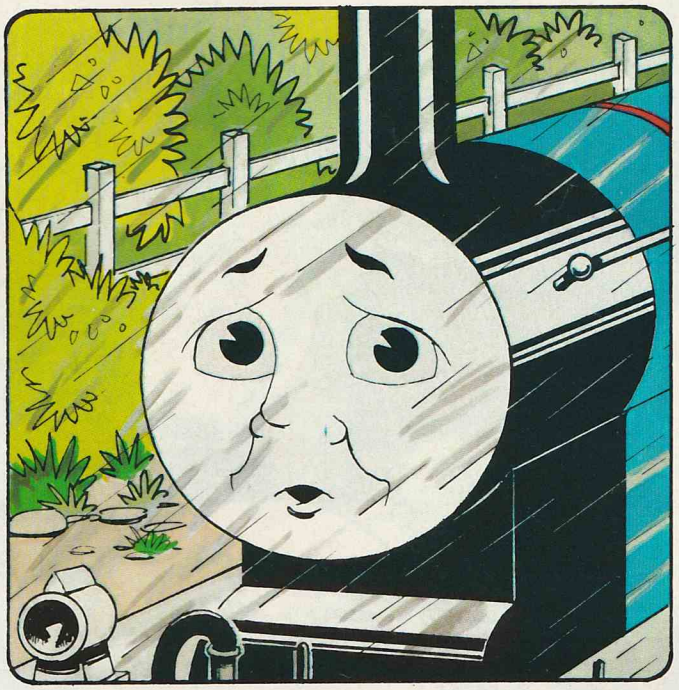


4. "I've done it, we're off! I've done it, we're off!" said Edward as he finally puffed out of the station. Bill and Ben were delighted to see the visitors.

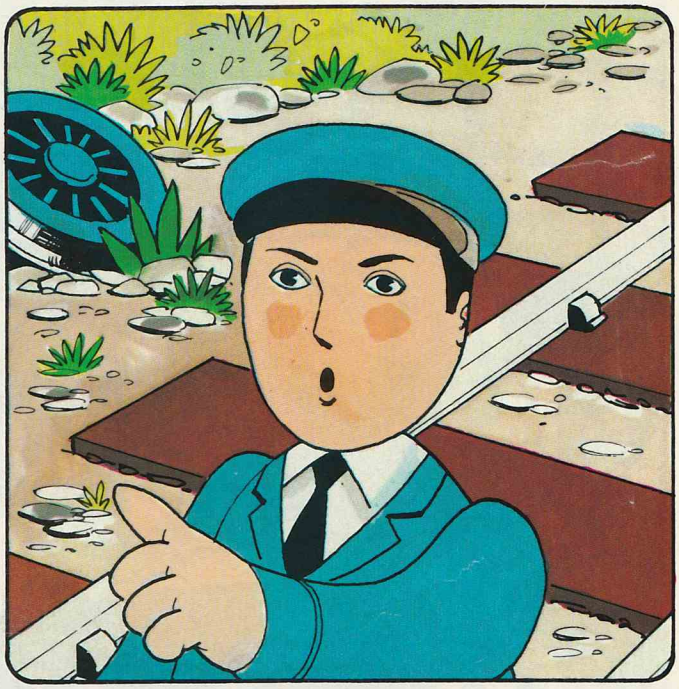
5. They loved being photographed. They took the party to the china clay works in a 'Brakevan Special'. Everyone had a splendid time and the visitors were all impressed.



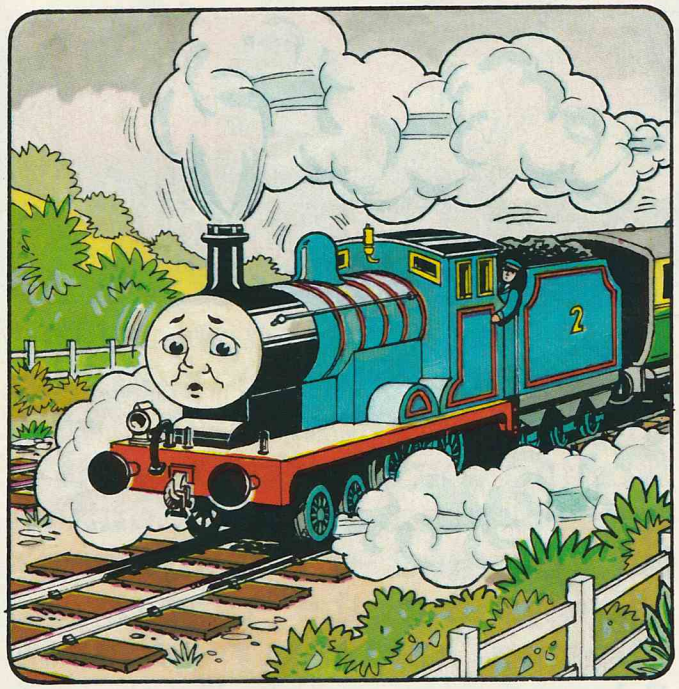
6. As Edward was taking the visitors home, a storm began to blow. It rained hard. Edward's sanding gear failed and his Fireman had to ride in front dropping sand.



7. Suddenly Edward's wheels slipped fiercely. With a shrieking crack, something broke! The crew inspected the damage. Repairs took quite some time.

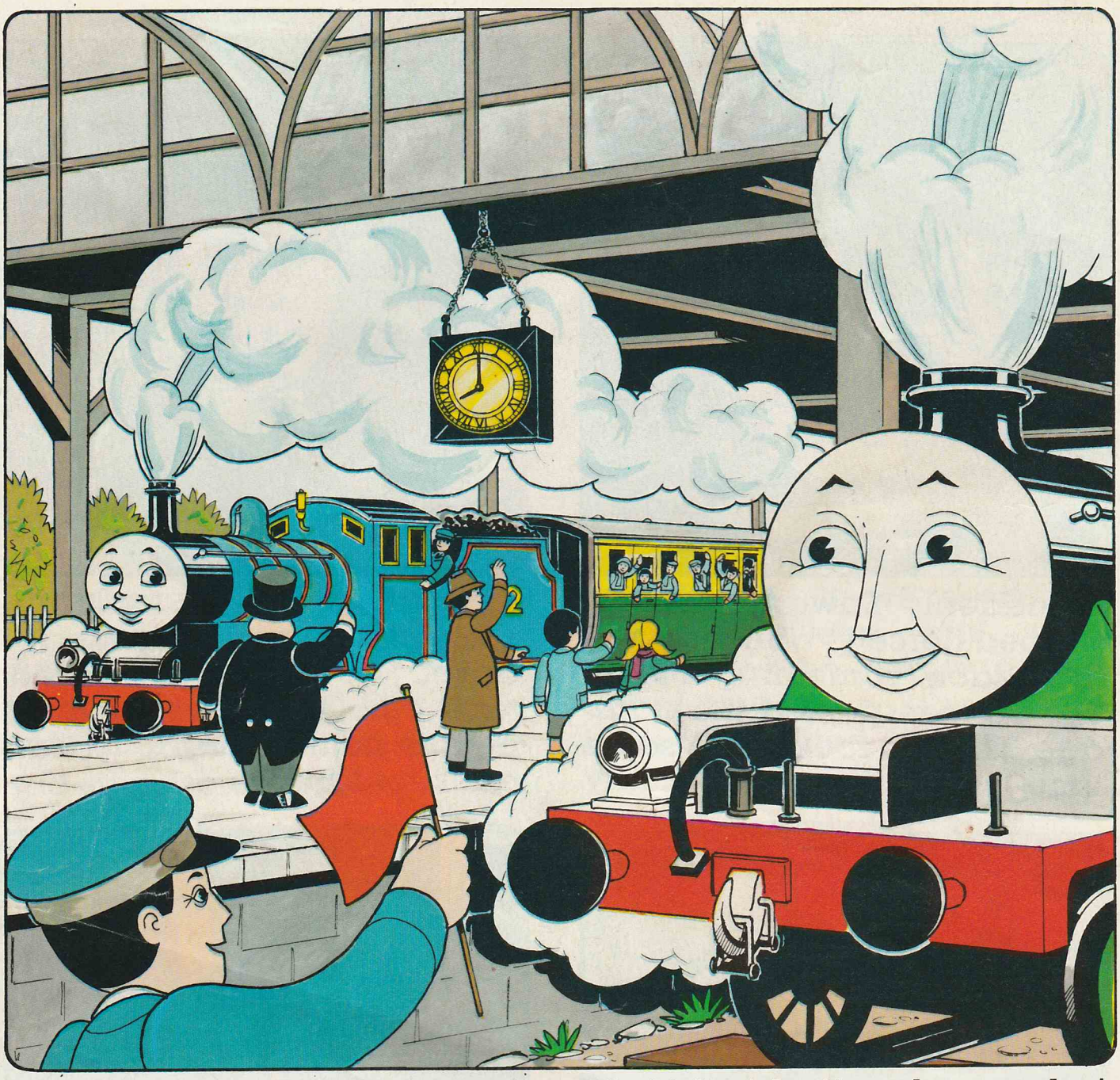


8. "One of your crank-pins broke, Edward," said his driver. "We've taken your side-rods off. Can you get these people home? They must start back tonight."



9. "I'll try, sir," promised Edward. He puffed and pulled his hardest, but his wheels kept slipping and he could not start the heavy train. The passengers were anxious.

10. The driver, guard and fireman went along the train making adjustments. "We've loosened the couplings now," said his driver. "You can pick up your coaches one by one."



11. "That should be much easier," said Edward. "Come on!" he puffed and moved cautiously ahead. The first coach moving helped to start the second, and the second helped the third. "I've done it! I've done it!" puffed Edward. "Steady, boy!" his driver warned. "Well done! Easy does it." Edward forged slowly but surely ahead.

12. At last, battered, weary but unbeaten, Edward steamed into the station. Henry was waiting for the visitors with a special train. The Fat Controller pointed to the clock crossly, but the passengers cheered and they thanked Edward very much. Duck and Boco saw to it that Gordon and James remained respectfully silent.

THE END

In our next issue: A bump on the line!